

CLAIMS

Side 1
1. A microcomputer including a read-only memory that stores programs, a controller/calculator that successively accesses to addresses of the programs stored in said read-only memory to retrieve and decode an instruction from each of the accessed addresses, thereby executing a processing based on the decoded instruction, and a program counter in which an address to be accessed by said controller/calculator is successively renewed and indicated, said microcomputer comprising:

at least one comparison-address-storage device that stores a comparison address data corresponding to an optional address of the programs stored in said read-only memory, at which an interruption-processing should be executed to virtually revise the programs stored in said read-only memory;

a random-access memory that stores a revisional program in which said interruption-processing is programed;

at least one vector-address-storage device that stores a vector address data corresponding to a head address of said revisional program stored in said random-access memory; and

an address comparator that compares said comparison address data with an address successively renewed in said program counter,

wherein said controller/calculator makes an access to

the head address of said revisional program, stored in said random-access memory, corresponding to said vector address data stored in said vector-address-storage device, when it is determined by said address comparator that there is a
5 coincidence between said comparison address data and the renewed address of said program counter, resulting in an execution of said interruption-processing in accordance with said revisional program.

2. A microcomputer as set forth in claim 1, further
10 comprising:

a discrimination system that discriminates whether the coincidence between said comparison address data and the renewed address of said program counter is proper; and

an address-coincidence-disabling system that disables
15 the coincidence between said comparison address data and the renewed address of said program counter.

3. A microcomputer as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

a rewritable and non-volatile memory that stores said
20 revisional program, said comparison address data and said vector address data;

a reading/writing system that reads said revisional program, said comparison address data and said vector address data from said rewritable and non-volatile memory, and then
25 writes these data in said random-access memory, said

comparison-address-storage device and said vector-address-storage device, respectively, whenever the microcomputer is powered ON.

5 4. A microcomputer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said address comparator is connected to said program counter to thereby retrieve the renewed address therefrom.

10 5. A microcomputer as set forth in claim 1, wherein said address comparator is connected to an address bus extending to said program counter, to thereby retrieve the renewed address therefrom.

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15 6. A microcomputer as set forth in claim 1, further comprising a vector-address data setting system that reads the vector address data from said vector-address-storage device, and is then set in said program counter, whereby the access to the head address of said revisional program by said controller/calculator is made, resulting in the execution of said interruption-processing in accordance with said revisional program.

20 7. A microcomputer as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

25 a vector-address-temporary-storage device that receives the vector address data from said vector-address-storage device, when it is determined by said address comparator that there is the coincidence between said comparison address data and the renewed address of said program counter; and

a vector-address data setting system that reads the vector address data from said vector-address-temporary-storage device, and is then set in said program counter, whereby the access to the head address of said revisional program by said controller/calculator is made, resulting in the execution of said interruption-processing in accordance with said revisional program.

8. A microcomputer as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

a return-address-setting system that sets said comparison address data as a return-address data in said program counter when the execution of said interruption-processing in accordance with said revisional program is completed; and

an address-coincidence-disabling system that disables the coincidence between said comparison address data and said return-address set in said program counter by said return-address-setting system.